JOB of the Week



Job description: Visual merchandisers design eye-catching product displays and store layouts to encourage sales.

Tasks you will undertake in the job: As a Visual merchandiser you'll need to have the following skills and qualities:

- to be thorough and pay attention to detail
- the ability to work well with others
- the ability to come up with new ways of doing things
- to be flexible and open to change
- the ability to sell products and services
- the ability to accept criticism and work well under pressure
- customer service skills
- excellent verbal communication skills
- to be able to use a computer and the main software packages competently

Career Progression

With experience, you could progress to team leader, then visual merchandising manager.

You could also move into retail, exhibition or interior design, or set up your own business creating oneoff displays.

You could become a freelance visual merchandiser and work for lots of different companies on a consultancy basis.







Skills required for this job (core competencies):

Communication	Resilience	Organisation	Teamwork
Problem Solving	Initiative	Creativity	Digital literacy

Salary: Visual merchandisers are typically paid a starting wage of £19 000, this increases with experience; with experienced you can expect to earn approximately £30 000 p.a.

Working hours: Working hours are usually around 36-38 hours per week (variable). It is likely that you will work during the evening and at the weekend



Qualifications to become a Visual merchandiser:

You can get into this job through: a college course; an apprenticeship; working towards this role; applying directly or a specialised distance learning course

College: You could do a college course before looking for a trainee job with a retailer. Courses include: Level 2 Certificate in Fashion Retail; Level 3 Diploma in Retail Skills Visual Merchandising; Level 4 Diploma in Merchandising for Fashion Retail; Level 4 Diploma in Visual Merchandising

Some people get into visual merchandising after doing art and design courses like fashion design or textiles.

Entry requirements

You'll usually need: 2 or more GCSEs at grades 9 to 3 (A* to D), or equivalent, for a level 2 course; 4 or 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C), or equivalent, for a level 3 course or 1 or 2 A levels, a level 3 diploma or relevant experience for a level 4 or level 5 course

Essential skills you need to show: To succeed as a Visual merchandiser, the following personal skills and attributes would give you an advantage:

- to be thorough and pay attention to detail
- the ability to work well with others
- the ability to come up with new ways of doing things
- to be flexible and open to change
- the ability to sell products and services
- the ability to accept criticism and work well under pressure
- customer service skills
- excellent verbal communication skills
- to be able to use a computer and the main software packages competently

This job in the future: The workforce is projected to decrease by 2.6% over the period to 2027, losing 800 jobs. In the same period, 62.1% of the workforce is projected to retire, creating 18,900 job openings.

